

U.S. perfins fall victim to fakers: five forgeries reported so far

U.S. perfins have fallen victim to the forgers—apparently the same ones who have been grinding out fake perfins from other countries.

Kurt Ottenheimer came across five suspect U.S. perfins in a mixture. He brought them to the Perfins Club meeting in Springfield where U.S. catalog editor John Randall declared them forgeries.

Once again, the fakes are reasonably easy to spot, particularly the lop-sided M. The uneven

spacing of the holes in the other patterns indicate that the patterns are the product of something other than a perforating machine.

Two of the fakes (the N.Y.



and the P) are on Scott 335, the M is on 250, the O is on 249, and the C is on Scott 281.

Speculation is that the forger traces parts of real perfins onto randomly-chosen stamps—or

creates his own patterns—and then punches the holes by hand. What motivates the forger remains a mystery. He (or she) cannot be making much money from the creations since nobody has

paid high prices for any of the items.

Members who are offered perfins that are said to be "new discoveries" or which do not exactly match listed varieties should be cautious. Questions about suspect perfins should be directed to the appropriate catalog editor.